

The Bloomfield Record.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1880.

The Farmer's Daughter.

She dwelt within a quiet home,
No model of the graces,
Unknown to culture's high walks,
Or fashion's giddy places.
A thoughtful girl, so sweet and wise,
With earnest face and deep gray eyes,
The farmer's gentle daughter.

From morn till eve the little maid
Is busy at her labor;
She sweeps and dusts, and feeds the hearth,
And never minds her neat bairn;
No gossip ever listens to.
(A merri rare, 'ween me and you).

Thus lives the farmer's daughter.
On baking days her tiny hands
Are skillful at the making;
No bread more light & sweet than her's.
Was ever made by baking;
She burns the butter, golden, sweet,
And keeps the dairy clean and neat;
This farmer's busy daughter.

Her garden is an Eden lair,
A bloom with pink and roses;
She knows the name of every flower,
And makes some gorgeous posies.
Grows peans and radishes and cress,
And corn, and squash, and herbs to please,
This farmer's happy daughter.

Long may she bravely smile on us,
Our darling household fair,
The queen of garden, house and lot;
And princesses of the dairy.
To teach us by her pleasant way
To love the things of "every day."
God bless the farmer's daughter.

—Annie L. Jack, in *Rural New Yorker*.

Among the Counterfeitors.

Five or six years ago, when I was detailed to look up the Rogers gang of counterfeiters, I had but one clue to begin work on. One of the clerks in the dead-letter office had saved and sent to the chief the following letter:

Pittsburgh, May 1863.—"Ned," I have got all the 'quid' which I brought and shall be in Parkersburg next week for a supp'y. I have found and will bring with me a first-class example. The point occurs to me right away, however, that I had some trouble with the 1st & 5's. Look out for my arrival.

We had for a whole year been trying to find the headquarters of half-a-dozen counterfeiters who had banded together under the name of the "Knights of Edward Rogers," formerly employed as a bank-note engraver by a New York establishment. He had flooded Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, and other cities with counterfeits, and, first and last, ten or a dozen detectives had failed to find the headquarters of the gang and break them up. Several parties had been arrested for "stealing" the counterfeits, but they were set free keepers and short-sighted men merely acting as agents to get rid of the money.

We argued among ourselves, that Rogers and four or five (perhaps more) engravers had been sent to Parkersburg, and had them in other cities where the money was being freely passed out, but they had not been able to get a clue to Rogers' headquarters. The letter really amounted to nothing. "Dick" might have written it in that city, but the fact that the letter had not been called for was a proof to several of the detectives who were looking over the case with me, that Rogers was not part of the country. Had he been, he would not have allowed the letter to remain unclosed for.

No matter what my companions thought, I had an idea of my own. Among all the towns coming from cities and towns, we had not received a single one from Parkersburg, although twenty miles from there, were sending in complaints almost every day. "Dick" must be here, believed the gang were located at or near Parkersburg, and refrained from uttering any of their notes there in order not to alarm the local authorities. At any rate, I might as well go to Parkersburg myself, as I must start out blindfolded and let luck furnish me a clue, or abandon the case in despair as others had done.

I took the letter along with me, read and re-read it so often that I could repeat every word, and the cramped characters were before my eyes like a photograph. It is a new theory that one can judge a man by the looks of a man, as well as of his character, by studying his chirography. I never saw a line of writing, from man or woman, without holding up an imaginary photograph of the writer, and I have often been quite correct in my guess on the trail. I made up my mind, however, how "Dick" would look, and was determined that if ever I ran across him, I would make a whitish mark. "I mean just this—make money the beat was you."

Taking the bill in my hand, I walked up to the landlord, and when he asked me what I wanted, I said, "I am going out to the street now to make some purchases, and I should not pay out a dollar of paper money."

"What?" he said, with a start, and then asked me up to his rooms. Arriving there, he inquired how much of that kind of money I had, and I showed him my stock. He examined it carefully, and then asked me, "What do you mean by 'paper money'?"

"Ouch!" I replied. "He will cheat me when I settle up, and they shouldn't let him back here!" I am going out to the street now to make some purchases, and I should not pay out a dollar of paper money."

I found that my son's establishment was traveling. New England had taken up my mind to hunt and fish and do a general "loafing" business for two or three weeks, choosing Parkersburg because of its some acquaintances back in the country."

These explanations were entirely satisfactory to the landlord, and he at once proceeded to make me at home.

To carry out my plan I purchased a rifle, a shotgun, a fishing tackle, and for the first four days was in the woods and among the hills the greater portion of the time. In truth I did and did love a ramble in the woods, and the long jaunts which I did were great, however, after the fourth day I lounged about the hotel nearly all day, closely watching the guests and townspeople who came in. Toward evening I would go to the hotel bar, being gone half an hour each time. I was just about to enter the door when some one came out. Looking up I saw a familiar face—one that I had seen a good many times before, but I could not remember where.

"How 'you'?" I exclaimed, holding out my hand. "I remember your face like a book, but hang me if I can recollect your name."

"I don't remember that I ever saw you before," replied the man, slowly, not keeping my hand and giving it a hearty squeeze.

"What may I call your name?"
I gave him my assumed name and stated my own, and he had given to the landlord, but after a conversation of ten or fifteen minutes he failed to make out that we ever had a previous acquaintance. He stated that he had traveled in the North and West, and that he had met him several times at hotels. I would not give up in my own mind but that I had met him many times, but as the subject did not seem to interest him, I soon stopped it, and he went to his room, and did not appear again that evening.

I knew from what had passed that I could not gain the man's confidence and that he was not likely to induce him to guide me to his headquarters.

By arresting him I might make him turn informer if holding out the instrument of escape for himself. I had everything arranged with his secretary; but he bluffed me after I travelled about, watching everything, had an eye on the hill road, but did not catch sight of him. Returning to the hotel, I did not return until after dark the next evening.

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I was taking going to bed, in fact I was taking my lamp from the landlord's room behind the door, when he came in. The man on whom it was "Chas. J. Burton, New York." The moment my eye fell upon the cramped chirography I gave a start which I did not notice, but the man had a look at me and his shaken hands with looked at me from the page as distinctly as a photograph. In a moment he had made up my mind that "Burton" was the man I had been looking for. The police had been following him, and there was no lack of proof. He was a man of means, and his wife was a woman whom I established my identity with him.

The attempt to wing anything from him in regard to the others was a failure. He denied that he had been a constable, but when he told me that he was a traveling agent, he never has the same location twice alike."

He then turned back over a period of seven months, and showed me his record, he was Burton, of New Orleans, then of Boston, then of Omaha, but never twice the same place.

"I don't know what he does come for," I replied, "but I have a record of his, and he is a traveling agent."

"Yes, he always comes to us on his travels," I replied, "but he must be a traveling agent, for he never has the same location twice alike."

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Burton out of my sight for several hours. At noon the weather cleared up, and he borrowed the landlord's gun and took mine and went for the hills, believing he would have to spend the night, but he bluffed me after I travelled about, watching everything, had an eye on the hill road, but did not catch sight of him. Returning to the hotel, I did not return until after dark the next evening.

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